

Teacher Created Fluency Activity

Focus: Repeated Readings

Date: April 26, 2010

Teacher: Mrs. Carolyn Bordelon

Reading Specialist,

Tremont

Activity description:

This is a 3rd Grade PLC intervention plan involving all four 3rd grade teachers, four specialists and our EIS. All 3rd grade students were given assessments in the areas of reading, writing, math and social and on the basis of these were assigned to the 9 teachers participating. I worked with 6 students from the four 3rd grades needing help in decoding and fluency in reading. Students not needing any assistance were placed in an enrichment group with one of the classroom teachers.

Fluency goals for this activity:

1. Repeated readings as effective instruction to improve fluency, (engaging students in an interesting way through the use of the ipod)
2. That after each rereading the intonation, phrasing and fluency would improve
3. Each student could listen to their own reading and make judgments-(in the future this could lead to the development of a rubric).

Materials & resources needed:

1. Readers' Theatre. . . by Suzanne I. Barchers
2. ipod
3. script from text- Kumba and Kambili, (an African tale)
4. The Fluent Reader by Timothy V. Rasinski-reread Chapter 5-Performance Reading, pp, 101-120

Plan for implementation:

This group met for the first time on March 30, 2010, The class meets on Tues. and Thurs. for 30 minutes. The plan is to begin by dividing the time into 15 minutes each for decoding and fluency, gradually switching over to only fluency. On April 13 and 15 the group read Jack and the Beanstalk, (a known tale) in practice for the "style" of a readers' theatre. Last week was the 1st and 2nd reading of Kumba and Kambili, with a part for each student. Each student kept the same part and listened to both readings on April 22.

Assessment & Documentation:

The students and the teachers listening to the recordings on the ipod is one form of assessment and documentation. At the beginning of the classes, student read paragraphs to set a beginning of number of correct words per minute. The goal was exceed this standard. I would like to continue the ipod class and the reader's theatre though the coming school year and develop a rubric which the students could use with repeated reading to do some self-evaluations.

Timeline for Activity:

Earlier this year, I was doing timed readings and rereadings with my groups using poetry and short texts not read before. With the advent of our decision as a PLC to do these group interventions, I changed the format to a readers' theatre because all 6 students meet with me in my other classes during the week. This has been so success in terms of progress and student response that I plan to continue this into the coming school year.

Support or resources from 21st Century Coach:

The initial meeting in October was the most helpful for me because I was not familiar with the ipod. Although I read Rasinski's book several years ago-thanks for the additional which I keep at school and reread.

Additions/notes since the April 26 responses:

Annette Hegemier, our EIS, ordered a new Readers' Theatre kit for Tremont, which arrived after I began this project. I choose Teaming With Mr. Cool. It is from the 3-4 set and has some connections with Dahl's The Fantastic Mr. Fox, which I read to all my students in the fall, prior to the movie.

I would like to enroll in the beginners ipod class again next year and become more proficient. When a teacher does rereading, does she get better??-Just kidding.

I am anxious to try out more of Rasinski's ideas on the ipod and sent emails to him regarding these for his feedback.

This class has benefited my students and my professional development also.